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EXAMINER

VU, TUAN A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2193

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/604,987

Applicant(s)

PARTHASARATHY ET AL.

Examiner

Tuan A. Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 July 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-18, 20-27 and 29-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-18, 20-27, 29-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the Applicant's response filed 7/20/2005.

As indicated in Applicant's response, claims 1-3, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15, 17-18, 20-23, 25, 27, 30, 33 have been amended, and claims 9, 19 and 28 canceled. Claims 1-8, 10-18, 20-27, and 29-35 are pending in the office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-8, 10-18, 20-27, and 29-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Renaud et al., USPN: 5,958,051 (hereinafter Renaud), in view of Shaw, USPN: 2002/0026634 (hereinafter Shaw); and further in view of Graunke et al., USPN: 5,991,399 (hereinafter Graunke) and Evans et al., USPN: 5,805,899 (hereinafter Evans).

As per claim 1, Renaud discloses a method for integrity checking employable by application programs at runtime (e.g. Fig. 6; col. 9, line 40 to col. 10, line 37), such method comprising:

providing an assembly manifest (e.g. *data structure 300* – Fig. 3a – Note: plurality of files under the scope of one manifest reads on assembly manifest) that contains a list of versioned modules (e.g. Fig. 3a-b; *data files 304-314, version of the file* - col. 6, lines 46-64; col. 7, lines 31-36 – Note: Java class files or applets are equivalent to modules) that make up the assembly;

providing a assembly manifest (e.g. *signature file 302* – Fig. 3b) with a hash value of data related to at least one module of the list of modules (e.g. *identifier, one-way hash* - col. 7, lines 15-27);

comparing one module in the manifest at runtime to identify whether a runtime version of such module is similar the a version as provided from the source (e.g. *signature file ... author, version of file* – col. 6, line 53 to col. 7, line 5; steps 402-414 –Fig. 4).

But Renaud does not specify that the hash of the list of modules making up assembly is a hash of the contents of at least one module. Renaud, however, teaches arranging modules or file data in such way that digital signature is combined with digest encryption algorithm and that the manifest can include data related to the modules comprising the assembly (e.g. *data relating to each data file, MD5, MD2* - col. 7, lines 24-54) to facilitate processing and security checking; and signature files representing each of the file in the structure manifest (see Fig. 3a; *even signature files* - col. 6, lines 50-52). Shaw, in a system to receive application program or objects into an application client environment like Renaud's using a manifest of modules listed for activation of client-side applets(Renaud: Fig. 5a), discloses manifest of hashes representing code segments as checked from a list, each code segment being used and activated after being verified based on such hash checklist (e.g. pg. 3 - para 0034-0035). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the integrity checking of manifest-listed modules by Renaud such that such manifest lists not only the data modules hashed identifiers or data related to those modules but also a hash of the contents of such modules just as taught by Shaw, Renaud's hashing of module identifier differs from Shaw's module content hashing in that the hash by Shaw can store source provider identification. One

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ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to implement a manifest of hashed content or modules because via hashing and accompanying it with additional source identification, the modules not only can be verified for integrity but also can originate from more than one locations and then loaded separately (see Shaw, para 0034) notably since the source identification or publisher site has been a security concern in Renaud's approach also (see col. 11-12 related to Fig. 5).

Nor does Renaud explicitly teach comparing hash of one module obtained to identify whether is similar to a version at build time of the assembly. Based on the author, the version information of the signature file as mentioned above; and the teaching by Renaud concerning the security level concerning site publisher using certificate (col. 11-12); and the hash content in a manifest enabling downloading from verifiable source locations as taught by Shaw, would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the comparing of hash content, from a manifest list as by Renaud or Shaw, is based on whether it matches the source provider established identification, one such identification being a version of a build of such module as intended via the version teaching by Renaud (col. 6, line 53 to col. 7, line 5; steps 402-414 –Fig. 4). The motivation would have been obvious because of the level of trustiness raised concerning a version and authoring source as shown by Renaud; and secondly to enable correct update of versioned code as intended by Shaw's using hash content (e.g. para 0041, pg. 3).

Renaud does not explicitly disclose providing the assembly manifest with a hash of a manifest of at least one other assembly that the assembly depends on. However, Renaud discloses a signature or hashed representation of the manifest file (Fig. 3B) and unique identifier

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for each of multiple sites (*certificate ...token ... a site* - col. 9, lines 30-39; *Add site* - Fig. 5a) which are source of files/object within the loaded assembly for which to verify for authenticity (e.g. col. 4, lines 9-34; Fig. 4). Based on Renaud's providing within the assembly manifest a signatory authority in form of a unique piece of information like a certificate of a site source, the dependency from one manifest onto another assembly of objects as a particular signature form or certificate is perceived, and this unique representation suggestive of a signature is further enhanced by Graunke. Graunke discloses a manifest as a signed information structure analogous to that of Renaud and further discloses encrypted objects therein being ready for authentication and a list of references wherein each reference in turn contain signature information referring to other sections of a manifest (e.g. col. 6, line 46 to col. 7, line 7) while Evans teaches manifest pointing to another manifest. Indeed, Evans, in a method to link runtime versioned objects similar to the combination of components of Shaw's template using hash value of object identifier (Evans: Fig. 11) analogous to that such as taught by Renaud (Renaud: Fig. 4), discloses pointer information to refer to the assembly manifest of another versioned object that the assembly depends on (e.g. Fig. 16). Based on the signatory entity such as unique identifier for external source leading to a external assembly by Renaud and signature information per reference via Graunke's list of reference -- wherein each reference includes signature information referring to other section (e.g. Graunke: Fig. 3) combined with Evans' concept of manifest pointing the signatory entity or hash of a manifest as by Renaud/Graunke leading to or referring to external assembly that the current assembly depends on is recognized. Since information (including references to other external sources as mentioned above) within a manifest is to support all related information needed to deploy the objects represented under the

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scope of such manifest, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the manifest file or signature file such as that by Renaud, with unique information to locate the site of another set or assembly the current assembly depends on, so that such related location or referenced manifest is represented by a signed structure reference as perceived by Graunke, i.e. hash representing the manifest of another interrelated assembly.

One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to do so because this would extend the security/version checking adopted by Renaud in that it reduces time to locate a referred to site of another assembly of modules, such reduction of time being enhanced by using source location information as taught by Renaud from above, to locate and verify the hashed representation of the depended-upon assembly (hash of the manifest) as suggested by Graunke enabling improved integrity checking of referenced assemblies such exemplified by Evans based on manufacturer attributes (see Graunke, col. 6, lines 63 to col. 7, line 15).

As per claim 2, in view of the combined teachings of Renaud and Shaw from claim 1, the limitation of providing a hash of the content such that to provide assembly manifest with hash of each modules that constitute the assembly manifest would have been obvious because Shaw's integrity checking per module via hash content listed from a table as set forth above enables Renaud with the integrity checking for version of each module before update/use as well as trust-worthiness checking of source provider as mentioned in the rationale set forth in claim 1 above.

As per claim 3 and 4, Renaud further discloses providing identity information in the assembly manifest (e.g. Fig. 3b, *additional data* – col. 6, lines 55-64) as well as publisher and version information.

As per claim 5, in reference to claim 1, Renaud discloses hash of the identifiers of versioned modules in the assembly and suggests placing a signature (or hashed representation) of the manifest itself on top of the manifest with all other module identifiers at the end of the manifest (e.g. Fig. 3B), but **does not disclose** providing a hash of the contents of such assembly at the end of the assembly. But this limitation to provide hash of the contents of modules has been addressed in claim 1 above. Hence it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add such hash of contents as taught by Shaw at the end of the assembly to enhance the layout of the manifest in order to expedite information and facilitate efficiently the integrity checking as intended per module when resources at built time are available as mentioned in claim 1 above.

As per claim 6, Renaud in combination with Shaw, discloses version number included in the manifest (Fig. 3b) and security checking of modules and comparing of signatures identifier from the manifest and generated from the module (Fig. 4, 6); but does expressly mention determining if the contents of the assembly has been modified by comparing the actual hash from the module contents with the hash stored in the assembly manifest. Notwithstanding the known concept that using hash and comparing hash for integrity checking as taught by both Renaud and Shaw, it is further noted via Shaw's comparison as to determine if the modules as hashed have been modified or tampered with the limitation as to comparing of an actual hash against hash of a listing manifest is disclosed. In case Renaud's hashed signature comparing does not already include a verification as to whether a module has been modified, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a integrity checking such as taught by Shaw to the data authentication by Renaud's using the

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version number in the manifest as mentioned above to determine if the up/down-loaded module for activation are integral with respect to their predetermined version, thus enhancing further the integrity checking of data and security control as intended by both Renaud and Shaw.

As per claims 7 and 8, Renaud discloses version and publisher information (e.g. col. 6, lines 55-64) and thereby suggests which version determination but fails to expressly disclose if the assembly has been modified using such information (re claim 7) but this limitation has been addressed in claim 6 above. Further, Renaud does disclose whether the publisher of the assembly is (re claim 7) trustworthy (e.g. step 506 – Fig. 5, 5a; col. 9, lines 8-21) via authenticating publisher name information in the manifest (re claim 8), i.e. checking version information and publisher information residing in a assembly manifest.

As per claim 10, Renaud discloses a method for facilitating integrity checking employable by application programs at runtime (e.g. Fig. 6; col. 9, line 40 to col. 10, line 37), such method comprising:

providing an assembly manifest (e.g. *data structure 300* – Fig. 3a) with manifest (Fig. 3b) that contains a list of assembly objects/files (e.g. *data files 304-314*, *version of the file* - col. 6, lines 46-64; col. 7, lines 31-36) that make up the assembly;

providing the assembly manifest (*signature file 302* – Fig. 3b) with a hashed reference to at least one assembly element (e.g. *identifier*, *one-way hash* - col. 7, lines 15-27).

But Renaud does not disclose that the manifest contains a list of referenced assembly of elements/objects that the assembly depends on; nor does Renaud disclose providing the assembly manifest with a hash of a manifest of at least one other assembly that the assembly depends on. However, Renaud teaches representing a manifest with a hashed representation (*signature 322* -

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Fig. 3B) and suggests dependency on multiple site location (hashed) represented with unique identifiers within one assembly at verification and runtime (e.g. col. 9, lines 30-39; *Add site* - Fig. 5a; col. 4, lines 9-34). Combined with a list of references wherein each reference include signature of other sections of a manifest by Graunke, these limitation about dependency of other assemblies is disclosed by Renaud or would have been obvious based on the rationale as set forth in claim 1 addressing why manifest of a dependent assembly can be a hashed representation.

Nor does Renaud teach analyzing the hash provided to the assembly manifest and a second hash of the manifest of a referenced assembly at runtime to determine changes between runtime assembly and build time assembly. Based on the version information being part of the hashed data presented in a manifest as taught by Renaud, and the desirability to check version and manufacturer trustiness before using the downloaded code by Graunke, in conjunction with Evans' manifest pointing and using Renaud's hash information in a manifest in order to check whether code can be trusted for updating or download, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the dependencies linkage as suggested from Renaud's hash listing and site source location dependency to enhance Renaud multiple location/attributes dependency because hash of manifest content re-enforcing assemblies dependency checking prior to usage would enable a improve integrity checking and dependency of source data to retrieve according to the intention as contemplated both by Graunke just as set forth in claim 1, and by Renaud.

As for claim 11, the limitation would also have been obvious in view of the rationale as set forth in claim 10; because providing in a manifest a hash of each of the referenced assemblies

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would enable more time-efficient locating of depended-upon assemblies as well as verifying their integrity and authentication as intended by Renaud.

As per claims 12 and 13, Renaud also teaches identity information in the assembly manifest (re claim 3) and publisher and version information (re claim 4).

As per claim 14, Renaud discloses hash of the identifiers of versioned modules in the assembly and suggests placing a signature (or hashed representation) of the manifest itself on top of the manifest with all other module identifiers at the end of the manifest (e.g. Fig. 3B), but **fails to disclose** providing a hash of the contents of such assembly at the end of the assembly. But this limitation to provide hash of the content or signature at the bottom of listed components provided by the manufacturer (i.e. signed manifest) has been disclosed by Graunke (see *signature:<pk...>* - Fig. 3). Hence it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add such hash of referenced contents as taught by Graunke at the end of the assembly to enhance the lay out of the manifest in order to expedite information and facilitate efficiently the integrity checking as intended per module when resources at built time are available as mentioned in claim 1 above.

As per claim 15, the limitation as to determine whether the contents of the referenced assembly has been modified would also have been obvious in light of the rationale set forth in claim 6 which is further applied to the combination of Renaud/Shaw/Graunke and Evans of claim 10 because this would enable enhancing further the integrity checking of data and security control as intended by both Renaud and Graunke.

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As per claims 16 and 17, the rationales based on Graunke's teachings and used in the rejection of claim 10 are herein respectively applied to the combination of Renaud for the same motivation as set forth therein correspondingly.

As per claim 18, Renaud discloses a computer readable medium (col. 15, lines 13-30) with an executable for a runtime application program, such medium comprising

an assembly (e.g. *data structure 300* – Fig. 3a) including manifest containing a list of modules making up the assembly (e.g. Fig. 3A); and

a hash value of at least one modules in the assembly (e.g. identifier *316, 318* - Fig. 3B; col. 7, lines 15-27); and hash of a manifest of assembly (*signature file 302* – Fig. 3b)

But Renaud does not specify that a hash value of one of module is *hash of the contents* of at least one module listed in the assembly and manifest. But this limitation has been addressed above in claim 1 using Shaw's teachings.

Nor does Renaud explicitly disclose a list of referenced assembly being referenced by the assembly or hash of a manifest of such referenced assembly; but this hash of manifest of a assembly being referenced to by the assembly, or which the assembly depends on has been addressed in claim 1 above.

As per claim 20, refer to rejection of claim 4.

As per claim 21, Renaud mentions about application classes used in a GUI window environment (e.g. Fig. 5a) to provide interactive verification of applets and Shaw discloses template storage DLL to enhance the component builder (col. 7, lines 48-61). Official notice is taken that the use of Dynamic Linked Library to effect windows application interfaces or/and browser/user interface functionality; or to support system low-level calls was a well-known

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concept at the time of the invention. In case the components to build by Shaw or the assembly of code or modules by Renaud do not already include a Dynamic Linked Library (DLL), it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a DLL mentioned in the above notice as one type of assembly of code in the list of assemblies as taught by Renaud/Shaw, because of the known benefits ascribed to using DLL such as portability, storage benefits and ease to use without the need for recompilation.

As per claim 22, Renaud discloses a readable medium (re claim 18) such medium comprising an assembly with a manifest containing a list of referenced assemblies. But such limitations have been addressed in claim 10 and 14 above; using the corresponding rationale as set forth therein to address the referenced assemblies limitation and hash of contents of referenced assemblies(Note: Graunke integrity checking based on attributes of manufacturer reads on build time of assembly versus actual assembly hash value compared at runtime).

As per claim 23, this claim corresponds to claim 1 above and includes the list of one at least one referenced assembly that the assembly references or depends on as recited in claim 1; hence is rejected with the corresponding rejection as set forth in claim 1.

As per claim 24, this claim recites comparing hash of a module in the manifest and hash of actual module is analogous to the comparison limitation as recited in claim 6 above. Hence, the rejection in claim 6 herein applies.

As per claim 25, Renaud discloses identity, publisher and version information and Shaw discloses integrity checking of code assemblies or modules as mentioned in claims 3-4 and 6-8 when addressing trustworthiness of hash value, publisher and version information above. Based on such teachings and rationale of rejection as set forth therein, the limitation of using identity

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and version information to determine if the assembly should be executed would also have been obvious using the rationale of mainly claims 6-8.

As per claim 26, with reference to claim 23, Renaud does not expressly teach a binding policy but discloses establishing and verification of signature with version information included and access permissions protocol (e.g. Fig. 5, 5a, 7) to enable trusted communication to bind usage of received files to the secure and trusted protocols; and also teaches determining which applet is to be trusted for execution (Fig. 6). In building components using secure object verification means, Shaw further enhances Renaud's version recording by disclosing integrity checking to verify if data are not corrupted or modified (*check license and integrity, component has been damaged* - col. 17, lines 16-44). Graunke disclose client/server trusted method to provide tamper resistant communication-based verification process for binding downloaded content with originating source attributes, among which versions of manufactured content (see Fig. 2-5). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Renaud's (combined with Shaw) method for integrity checking using trusted protocol of versioned assemblies such as to enhance it with the version binding and linking at runtime from the client/server process by Graunke and effect it as a binding policy enabling a consistent process as to determining which version is to be executed when another version is resident on the executing environment; and which source provider can be trusted based on policy rules because this would enable alleviating system errors from having uncontrolled versions dynamically competing in a same system such as intended in the client/server software delivery tamper hazards as by Graunke (see text related to Graunke, Figs. 2-5) or as raised as concerns in the Renaud or Shaw's BACKGROUND.

As per claim 27, Renaud discloses a method for facilitating integrity of assemblies employable by application program at runtime, such method comprising components for:

a first component to provide a assembly manifest for an assembly (e.g. *signature file 302* – Fig. 3b; *data structure 300* – Fig. 3a - Note : data structure 300 is assembly and signature file is manifest) that contains at least one a assembly files (e.g. *data files 304-314, version of the file* - col. 6, lines 46-64; col. 7, lines 31-36 – Note: files, digital stream or class files are assembly files making up assembly structure 300) that make up the assembly, such assembly files comprise a manifest (e.g. Fig. a-b – Note: file representation by identifier 316, 318 is equivalent to manifest of each assembly file); and

a second component to provide the assembly manifest with a hash of the assembly files (e.g. *identifier, one-way hash* - col. 7, lines 15-27 – Note: hash representation of file identifier is hash of the manifest of the assembly files).

But Renaud does not discloses that the assembly files in the manifest is a referenced assembly; but this limitation has been addressed using the teachings by combined teachings of Renaud and Graunke to link/reference assemblies to other assemblies references using the rationale as set forth in claims 1 or 10 above.

Nor does Renaud disclose that such referenced assembly comprises a manifest. But this limitation would have been disclosed from the obvious rationale as from above in view of Renaud/Graunke and Evans' teaching because each reference to another manifest also means that each referenced assembly in turn includes manifest information as to represent itself as set forth in claim 1 (Note: each assembly is represented by a manifest).

Nor does Renaud disclose that the assembly manifest includes a hash of the manifest of at least one of the referenced assembly. The motivation to provide the assembly manifest with referenced assemblies having each a signed manifest (or hash of a manifest) and to provide the assembly manifest with a hashed information referencing other referenced assemblies would have been obvious for the same reasons as set forth in claim 1 above using Graunke.

Nor does Renaud teach a third component that compares hash of one referenced assembly with actual hash value of one referenced assembly to identify version changes. But this limitation would have been obvious in view of the combination Renaud/Graunke and Evans referencing of signed/hashed information of other referenced assemblies as set forth in claims 1 or 10 above.

As per claim 29, Renaud does not teach a binding policy but discloses establishing and verification of signature with version information included and access permissions protocol (e.g. Fig. 5, 5a, 7) to enable trusted communication to bind usage of received files to the secure and trusted protocols; and also teaches determining which applet is to be trusted for execution (Fig. 6). Graunke disclose client/server trusted method to provide tamper resistant communication-based verification process for binding downloaded content with originating source attributes (see Fig. 2-5). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Renaud's method for integrity checking using trusted protocol of versioned assemblies such as to enhance it with the version dependency linking as mentioned by Renaud and the client/server process by Graunke and effect it as a binding policy enabling a consistent process as to determining which version is to be executed when another version is resident on the executing environment; and which source provider can be trusted based on policy

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rules because this would enable alleviating system errors from having uncontrolled versions dynamically competing in a same system such as intended by the client/server software delivery tamper hazards as by Graunke (see Graunke, Figs. 2-5).

As per claim 30, this claim is a means claim including limitations corresponding to referenced assembly limitations as recited in claim 27 above, and include integrity evaluating means for comparing hash as mentioned in claim 27, hence this claim is rejected with the same rejection as set forth in claim 27 above.

As per claim 31, Renaud teach about module (re claim 1) teaches about related site locations for obtaining assembly objects. The motivation to make such manifest of related assembly to represent the module of Renaud would have been obvious in light of the rationale in claim 27 above.

As per claims 32-33, refer to claim 27 for respective limitations.

As per claims 34, 35, refer to claims 29 and 21 respectively.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8, 10-18, 20-27, and 29-35 have been considered but for the most part are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. However, following are the Examiner's observation in regard to some remarks against the references used herein.

(A) Applicants have submitted that Renaud does not teach hash of a manifest of the at least one referenced assembly (Appl Rmrks, pg. 10, top). The rejection now uses some teachings from Renaud and combined with reference in the list of references which each include signature information of sections of a manifest to set forth the rationale of obviousness.

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(B) Applicants have submitted that Shaw fails to teach hash of a manifest of an assembly (Appl Rmrks, pg. 10, 2nd para). The rejection is not using Shaw to disclose a missing feature from Renaud. Besides, in response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

(C) Applicants have submitted that Evans does not teach or suggest hash of a manifest of a referenced assembly (Appl Rmrks, pg. 10, last para). This argument is moot.

(D) Applicants have submitted (Appl Rmrks, pg. 11-12) that Renaud, Evans and Graunke do not teach or suggest limitations of claims 10, 27, 30, and 9, 26. These arguments depend on a combined teachings and Applicants failed to demonstrate in specifics term how the teachings when added together would generate adverse effects.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan A Vu whose telephone number is (272) 272-3735. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-4:30PM/Mon-Fri.

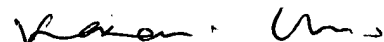
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kakali Chaki can be reached on (571)272-3719.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-3735 (for non-official correspondence – please consult Examiner before using) or 571-273-8300 (for official correspondence) or redirected to customer service at 571-272-3609.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: 571-272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VAT
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